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# 2016 BIRDING, HUNTING AND BIRD CONSERVATION EVENTS IN WISCONSIN

UPDATED 3/11/16

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## FEBRUARY

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### **Owl and Eagle Prowl—Horicon Marsh**

Date: Feb. 13

Time: 1 – 4 p.m.

Location: Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center, N7725 Hwy. 28, Horicon, WI 53032

Website: [www.horiconmarsh.org](http://www.horiconmarsh.org)

Meet at the Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center. Carpool to some areas that Bald Eagles frequent, and also search for Great Horned and Snowy owls along the route. Bring warm clothes and binoculars. Spotting scopes will be available for all.

### **Cooking Wild Game Workshop—Horicon Marsh**

Date: Feb. 20

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Location: Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center, N7725 Hwy. 28, Horicon, WI 53032

Website: [www.horiconmarsh.org](http://www.horiconmarsh.org)

Join DNR staffer and author of “Wild Rice Goose and Other Dishes of the Upper Midwest”, John Motoviloff, for an hour presentation on how to cook wild game. Then from 11am-12pm enjoy tasting some of the delicious meals and asking the author questions.

### **Wisconsin Hunting Expo**

Dates: Feb. 26 – 28

Times: Fri. 3 – 9 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: 1901 South Oneida Street, Green Bay, WI 54304

Website: <http://greenbaysportshows.com/hunting-expo-home/>

This show features presentations, products for sale, and exhibits. The DNR booth will include game bird management, conservation and Centennial information.

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## MARCH

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### **Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Sports Show**

Dates: March 2 – 6

Times: Wed. – Fri. 12 – 9 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Location: Wisconsin Exposition Center at State Fair Park, 8200 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214

Website: <http://jssportsshow.com/>

The MJS Sports Show features hands-on activities, demonstrations, events, presentations and numerous exhibits relating to outdoor activities, especially hunting and fishing. Check out the DNR booth for information on migratory bird conservation and management!

### **Horicon Marsh Nestbox Seminar**

Date: March 5

Times: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center, N7725 Hwy. 28, Horicon, WI 53032

Website: <http://www.horiconmarsh.org/>

Learn more about how to properly place and maintain nest boxes, which ones are right for your yard and the different species of birds you can attract. This event will feature presentations on common cavity nesters and will offer bluebird nest box kits for sale to build onsite with family or take home.

### **Bald Eagle Day**

Date: March 5

Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Location: Ferryville Village Hall, 170 Pine St., Ferryville, WI 54628

Website: <http://www.birdcitywisconsin.org/Calendar.htm>

This free event features live birds, contests, exhibits, crafts, bald eagle nest building and more.

### **Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunters' Conference**

Dates: March 11 – 12

Times: TBA

Location: Plaza Hotel and Suites, 201 N 17th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401

Website: [www.wiswaterfowlersconf.org](http://www.wiswaterfowlersconf.org)

This conference, organized and run by independent hunters, offers presentations and hands-on activities relating to hunting and waterfowl conservation and encourages participation in Wisconsin's waterfowl hunting traditions. The 14<sup>th</sup> annual conference will again feature the traditional Waterfowl Hunter's Party on Friday evening.

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### **APRIL**

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### **Wisconsin Deer and Turkey Expo**

Dates: April 1 – 3

Times: Fri. 2 – 9 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Sun. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison, WI 53713

Website: <http://www.deerinfo.com/Wisconsin>

Field & Stream Outdoor Life Deer & Turkey Expos Wisconsin will exhibit various hunting products and services.

### **Great Wisconsin Birdathon**

Dates: April 15 – June 15

Location: statewide

Website: <http://wibirdathon.org/>

Teams or individuals compete to find birds and raise funds for bird conservation across the state. The Great Wisconsin Birdathon is a wonderful opportunity to spend time outside with friends and family while promoting bird conservation. Funds support bird conservation efforts in Wisconsin.

### **Sharp-tailed Grouse at Namekagon Barrens Wildlife Area**

Dates: April 15 – May 15

Times: Sunrise

Location: Namekagon Barrens Wildlife Area, St. Croix Trail and Gomulak Fire Lane, Minong, WI 54859

Website: <http://www.fnbwa.org/blinds>

Sign up for a viewing blind during the spring to watch sharp-tailed grouse dance to attract a mate—a unique experience for all nature enthusiasts! Not only do the barrens and grassland habitat benefit grouse, they also attract birds such as upland sandpipers, brown thrashers, vesper sparrows and more.

### **Horicon Nest Box Monitoring**

Date: April 30

Time: 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Location: Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center, N7725 Hwy. 28, Horicon, WI 53032

Website: <http://www.horiconmarsh.org/>

Join Horicon Marsh staff for a tour of nest boxes around the marsh, featuring bluebirds, tree swallows, purple martins and wood ducks. Also learn how to contribute to the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas.

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## **MAY**

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### **Horicon Marsh Bird Festival**

Dates: May 6 – 9

Times: Friday: events from 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.; Saturday: events from 4 a.m. – 10 p.m.; Sunday: events from 6 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Monday: events from 6 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Location: Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area, Horicon, WI 53032

Website: <http://horiconmarshbirdclub.com/bird-festival/>

The Horicon Marsh Bird Festival focuses on introducing visitors to many migratory birds at the peak of spring migration through a variety of bird-related activities such as birding, bus and boat tours, bird banding, keynote speakers, demonstrations and kids' activities. Also includes a variety of free and paid tours and workshops.

### **Oshkosh BirdFest**

Date: May 7

Time: Menominee Park (day), 6 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Downtown Oshkosh (evening), 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Locations: Menominee Park (day), Merritt Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901  
Oshkosh Masonic Center (evening), 204 Washington Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Website: <http://www.oshkoshbirdfest.com/>

Oshkosh Bird Fest is a city event organized by volunteers from Oshkosh Bird Club, Oshkosh Sustainability Advisory Board, Oshkosh Zoological Society, Wild Ones, Winnebago Audubon, and Wisconsin DNR. Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with a variety of activities for all ages. Activities include a “big sit,” informational exhibits, live birds, native plant sales, bird walks and hands-on activities. Visit Shelter #1 in Menominee Park for a complete schedule and location of activities. The event is free and open to the public.

### **Wisconsin Society for Ornithology annual convention**

Dates: May 13 – 16

Times: Friday: events from 1 – 9 p.m.; Saturday: events from 5 a.m. – 7:45 p.m.; Sunday: events from 5 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.; Monday: 5 a.m. – 3 p.m. all-day field trips

Location: Racine Architect Hotel and Convention Center, 7111 Washington Ave. Hwy 20, Racine, WI 53406

Website: <http://wsobirds.org/what-we-do/annual-convention>

Activities include workshops, presentations, a banquet and birding field trips. WSO membership required; may purchase with registration.

### **Chequamegon Bay Birding and Nature Festival**

Dates: May 19 – 21

Times: TBA

Location: Ashland County

Website: [http://www.birdandnaturefest.com/?sm\\_auiHVRJbPknVqRL0S7](http://www.birdandnaturefest.com/?sm_auiHVRJbPknVqRL0S7)

The festival is a weekend of birding and nature activities on the south shore of Lake Superior, with over 110 activities offered.

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## JUNE

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Check back soon!

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## JULY

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Check back soon!

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## AUGUST

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### **Wisconsin State Fair**

Dates: Aug. 4 - 14

Times: Sunday – Thursday: 8 a.m. – 11 p.m.; Friday – Saturday: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.; final Sunday: 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Location: West Allis, WI

Website: <http://www.wistatefair.com/>

State Fair is one of the DNR's largest outreach opportunities. Stop by the Wildlife Management booth to learn more about the Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial and bird conservation, and view this year's State Duck Stamp award-winning artwork.

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## SEPTEMBER

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### **Whooping Crane Festival**

Date: Sept. 10

Time: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, N11385 Headquarters Rd, Necedah, WI 54646

Website: [http://www.travelwisconsin.com/events/birding/whooping-crane-festival-39388?sm\\_auiHVRJbPknVqRL0S7](http://www.travelwisconsin.com/events/birding/whooping-crane-festival-39388?sm_auiHVRJbPknVqRL0S7)

Annual festival featuring: pancake breakfast, vendors market, silent auction, food & concessions, artists and speakers and guided tours.

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## OCTOBER

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### **State of Stopover Symposium**

Dates: Oct. 5 - 7

Times: TBA

Location: Schlitz Audubon Center, 1111 E. Brown Deer Rd, Milwaukee, WI 53217

Website: <http://www.wisconsinbirds.org/migratory/>

Partners across the Great Lakes will share current conservation thinking pertaining to the stopover movement and update existing stopover initiatives.

### **Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative Annual Meeting: Protecting Birds through Action and Art**

Dates: Oct. 27 - 29

Times: TBA

Location: Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center, Rothschild, WI

Website: <http://www.wisconsinbirds.org/>

This event features partner presentations on bird conservation topics, workshops, a Birds in Art reception and, in 2016, information on the Migratory Bird Treaty Centennial.

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## NOVEMBER

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Check back soon!

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## DECEMBER

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Check back soon!